

Pinellas County

*315 Court Street
Clearwater, FL 33756*



Minutes - Final

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

2:00 P.M.

**Hybrid In-Person and Virtual Regular Meeting
Public Hearings at 6:00 P.M.**

Board of County Commissioners

*Janet C. Long, Chair
Kathleen Peters, Vice-Chair
Dave Eggers
Rene Flowers
Charlie Justice
Chris Latvala
Brian Scott*

ROLL CALL - 2:02 P.M.

Present: 7 - Brian Scott, Chair Janet C. Long, Vice-Chair Kathleen Peters, Dave Eggers, Rene Flowers, Charlie Justice, and Chris Latvala

Others Present: Barry A. Burton, County Administrator; Jewel White, County Attorney; Derelynn Revie, Board Records Manager; and Sarah Rathke, Board Reporter, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION by Reverend Dr. Jeffery G. Guild, St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Dunedin.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS**

1. Joint Earth Day/Arbor Day Proclamation:
Public Works
 - Carolyn Cheatham Rhodes, Urban Forester, Urban Forestry & Landscape Services
 - Matt Hill, Urban Forestry Management Specialist, Urban Forestry & Landscape Services
 - Erin Struzzieri, Environmental Specialist III/Ecologist, Ecological Services Unit

Chair Long invited the representatives in attendance from the Public Works Department to the podium and read a proclamation recognizing April 22 as Earth Day and April 28 as Arbor Day in Pinellas County; whereupon, Ms. Cheatham Rhodes provided brief comments and thanked the Board for the proclamation.

2. Public Service Recognition Week Proclamation:
Employees' Advisory Council
 - Bill Gorman, Vice Chair
 - Leena Delli Paoli, Secretary

Noting that the week of May 7 through 13 is nationally recognized as Public Service Recognition Week, Chair Long read a proclamation and asked citizens to join in recognizing Pinellas County employees for providing dedicated service and maintaining a standard of excellence; whereupon, Mr. Gorman expressed appreciation for the acknowledgement, noting that the employees work hard every day for the citizens.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

3. Citizens To Be Heard - Public Comment.

Kaitlyn Kmetz, St. Petersburg (submitted documents)
Catherine Lewis, St. Petersburg
Shanisse Rodriguez, Wesley Chapel
Kyle Leary, Sarasota

Matt Richards, Clearwater
Jill Sassone, Clearwater
Debbie Leppla, Clearwater (submitted documents)
Marjorie Bulone, Seminole
Dennis Petkiewicz, Seminole
Jim Hunt, Clearwater
Lindsay Camacho, St. Petersburg (submitted documents)
Renee Rivard, Cortez
Susan Hall, St. Petersburg
David Ballard Geddis, Jr., Palm Harbor (submitted documents)
Greg Pound, Largo
David Waddell, Clearwater
Dianne Campbell, Belleair
Kurtis Marsh, Holiday

CONSENT AGENDA - Items 4 through 17 (Item No. 13 addressed under Regular Agenda)

A motion was made by Vice-Chair Peters, seconded by Commissioner Flowers, that the Consent Agenda items be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Commissioner Scott, Chair Long, Vice-Chair Peters, Commissioner Eggers,
Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Justice

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Latvala

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER

4. Vouchers and bills paid from March 19, 2023 through April 1, 2023.

Period March 19 - 25, 2023

Accounts Payable - \$30,033,108.06

Payroll - None

Period March 25 - April 1, 2023

Accounts Payable - \$36,778,782.28

Payroll - \$4,409,288.66

The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

Reports received for filing:

5. Dock Fee Report for the month of March 2023.

The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

6. City of Largo Community Redevelopment Agency Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Report.

The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

7. Division of Inspector General, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, Report No. 2023-05 dated March 24, 2023 - Unannounced Audit of the Animal Services Department Petty Cash Fund and Change Fund.
The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

8. Quarterly Report of Routine Dock & Dredge/Fill Permits issued from January 1 through March 31, 2023.
The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

County Administrator

9. Receipt and file report of non-procurement items delegated to the County Administrator for the period ending March 31, 2023.
The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

Public Works

10. Joint Funding Agreement with the United States Geological Survey, Department of Interior, for the Caribbean-Florida Water Science Center Water Resource Investigations.

Joint funding agreement approved in the amount of \$300,100.00 (County responsibility, \$228,374.00). Agreement is effective May 1, 2023 to April 30, 2024.
The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

Solid Waste

11. Award of bid to United Scrap Metal FL Inc. for the sale of scrap metal.

Agreement awarded to United Scrap Metal FL Inc. in the estimated annual revenue amount of \$420,380.95, with an estimated 60-month revenue of \$2,101,904.75, on the basis of being the highest responsive, responsible bidder.
The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

Utilities

12. Award of contract to Brenntag Mid-South Inc. and Hawkins Inc. d/b/a Hawkins Water Treatment Group, Inc. for liquid Ammonium Sulfate 40% - A Tampa Bay Area Cooperative Contract.

Contract No. 23-0212-ITB awarded in a total forecasted 12-month County expenditure of \$273,525.00 to the following on the basis of being the lowest responsible, responsive bidders:

- Brenntag Mid-South, Inc. in a total not-to-exceed amount of \$174,000.00
- Hawkins Inc. d/b/a Hawkins Water Treatment Group, Inc. in a total not-to-exceed amount of \$99,525.00

Contract replaces Contract No. 178-0600-B, which expires on October 18, 2023, as set forth in the Staff Report.

The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

14. Receipt and file report of civil lawsuits filed against Pinellas County as delegated to the County Attorney.

The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND COUNCILS

Economic Development Authority

15. Award of bid to Superior Mechanical Systems, Inc.- STAR Center Air Handler Units 1, 3, and 9 Replacement.

Contract No. 23-0312-ITB-CP awarded to Superior Mechanical Systems, Inc. in the amount of \$654,900.00 on the basis of being the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. All work will be completed within 250 consecutive calendar days from notice to proceed date.

The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

Sheriff's Office

16. Receipt and file report of the Law Enforcement Trust Fund for the quarter ending March 31, 2023.

The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

17. Receipt and file report of Sheriff's Office grants received and service contracts for the quarter ending March 31, 2023.
The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

REGULAR AGENDA

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

Utilities

13. Ratification of the County Administrator's approval of the emergency agreement with 3B Cattle LLC for a Land Manager at Cross Bar & Al Bar Ranch.

Contract No. 23-0620-E (Agreement No. 23-0620-E) ratified, in the not-to-exceed amount of \$347,654.72 for a duration of 12 months.

Responding to queries by Commissioner Eggers, Utilities Deputy Director Hillary Weber indicated that the contract with The Forestry Company recently expired, necessitating the need for the emergency agreement so that operations can continue; that work is currently being done to prepare competitive bid advertisements for three separate contracts related to land management, forestry services, and ecology; and that recommended bid awards are anticipated being brought to the Commissioners in early 2024; whereupon, she confirmed that the County will manage the three contracts, as well as the proposed emergency agreement.

A motion was made by Commissioner Eggers, seconded by Vice-Chair Peters, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Commissioner Scott, Chair Long, Vice-Chair Peters, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

Referencing Item Number 15 on today's agenda, Commissioner Eggers requested that Mr. Burton provide an operational update regarding the STAR Center; whereupon, Mr. Burton suggested that the update could be presented during the upcoming budgetary review.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

Administrative Services

18. Termination of Agreement with Commercial Landscape Professionals d/b/a Trimac Outdoor for landscape and irrigation maintenance services.

Termination of agreement for cause approved (Contract No. 189-0354-B). Services will be provided by the second lowest bidder, Yellowstone Landscape Southeast LLC d/b/a Yellowstone Landscape, in the interim of establishing a new contract through a bid selection process.

A motion was made by Commissioner Scott, seconded by Commissioner Justice, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Commissioner Scott, Chair Long, Vice-Chair Peters, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

County Administrator**19.** Agreement with Inner Circle Sports LLC for consulting services.

(Contract 23-00130-A) Agreement approved in the not-to-exceed amount of \$66,000.00 for an estimated three-month expenditure. Agreement replaces expired Contract No. 22-0412-A.

Mr. Burton noted that Inner Circle Sports is an advisor for negotiations related to the Tampa Bay Rays.

A motion was made by Vice-Chair Peters, seconded by Commissioner Scott, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Commissioner Scott, Chair Long, Vice-Chair Peters, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

Public Works**20.** State funded Grant Agreement, including associated Resolution and Maintenance Memorandum of Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation, providing construction and construction engineering inspection services for the Advanced Traffic Management System/Intelligent Transportation System project on State Road 580 / Skinner/Main from U.S. Alternate 19/State Road 580/Broadway to U.S. 19.

The agreement, including associated Resolution No. 23-27 and Maintenance Memorandum of Agreement, approved. Total project estimate is \$2,120,148.00 (Florida Department of Transportation funding not to exceed \$334,500.00; County contribution is \$1,785,648.00). Agreement term expires May 13, 2025.

A motion was made by Vice-Chair Peters, seconded by Commissioner Latvala, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Commissioner Scott, Chair Long, Vice-Chair Peters, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

21. State funded Grant Agreement, including associated Resolution and Maintenance Memorandum of Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation, providing construction and construction engineering inspection for the Advanced Traffic Management System /Intelligent Transportation System project on State Road 586/Causeway Boulevard/Curlew Road from the Honeymoon Park entrance to U.S. 19.

The agreement, including associated Resolution No. 23-28 and Maintenance Memorandum of Agreement, approved. Total project estimate is \$2,273,345.00 (Florida Department of Transportation funding not to exceed \$502,000.00; County contribution is \$1,771,345.00). Agreement term expires May 13, 2025.

A motion was made by Vice-Chair Peters, seconded by Commissioner Eggers, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Commissioner Scott, Chair Long, Vice-Chair Peters, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

Safety and Emergency Services

22. Increase the upset limit to the Frontier Agreement for restoration of two ethernet service locations at 1301 1st Avenue North, Saint Petersburg, FL 33705 and 645 Pierce Street, Clearwater, FL 33756.

An increase of \$9,201.60 to Contract No. 167-0161-Q approved for a revised total contract value of \$2,491,966.01 effective through October 14, 2023.

A motion was made by Vice-Chair Peters, seconded by Commissioner Flowers, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Commissioner Scott, Chair Long, Vice-Chair Peters, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

Utilities

23. First Amendment with Wright-Pierce for the professional engineering services for Phase 2 of the Gulf Beach Water Booster Station Improvements Project.

(Contract No. 21-0610-NC) Amendment approved for Phase 2 Final Design service expenditures not to exceed \$1,151,796.00.

A motion was made by Vice-Chair Peters, seconded by Commissioner Justice, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Commissioner Scott, Chair Long, Vice-Chair Peters, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

COUNTY ATTORNEY

24. County Attorney Reports. - Update on county lawsuit against Florida PACE funding agency

Attorney White related that the County has filed a lawsuit against the Florida PACE Funding Agency for placing liens against residential properties located in Pinellas County; and that an emergency hearing has been requested. Responding to queries by the members, Attorney White indicated that the agency is operating in violation of Florida law and Pinellas County ordinance; and that, hopefully, the court will declare that the liens are void; whereupon, Commissioner Peters commended the County Attorney staff for their excellent work.

Responding to a query by Chair Long, Director of Communications Barbra Hernandez stated that she will coordinate with the legal department and County administration regarding a possible public service announcement to the residents.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

25. County Administrator Reports. - Public service recognition week and thank you to employees

Mr. Burton briefly discussed the recent Public Service Recognition Week and thanked the Pinellas County employees for their continued hard work and dedication.

COUNTY COMMISSION

26. County Commission New Business:

Pertinent and timely Committee/Board updates, policy considerations, administrative/procedural considerations, and other new business:

- a.) Bridge Illumination Resolution
- b.) Resolution for Joint Meeting to be Held Between the Board of County Commissioners of Pinellas, Hillsborough, and Pasco Counties

The members provided updates regarding their assigned boards and committees and commented on various topics, as follows:

Commissioner Latvala

- Go Rays!
- Honor Flight hosted by the St. Pete-Clearwater Airport
- Juvenile Welfare Board KidsFirst Luncheon
- Sixth Judicial Circuit Judges Elizabeth Zuroweste and Della Cope Investitures
- Largo and Clearwater Police Departments charity softball game
- Holocaust Remembrance Day
- Gratitude to Whit Blanton for his help on a constituent case

Commissioner Eggers

- Honor Flight and Welcome Home Flight
- Thank you to County employees
- Tampa Bay Water

Commissioner Peters

- Stakeholder Fatality Review meeting

Commissioner Scott

- Forward Pinellas
- Noise mitigation meeting at St. Pete-Clearwater Airport
- Shore Drive Bridge Replacement community input meeting
- St. Petersburg Innovation District
- Historic Preservation Board
- Turnaround Achievement Award breakfast

Commissioner Flowers

- Pinellas Technical College
- iHeart Media Ribbon Cutting
- Pinellas Opportunity Council
- First Ladies event
- NACo Housing Task Force
- Graduation from Florida Institute for County Government

Commissioner Justice

- West Klosterman Preserve
- Mayors' Council meeting
- Florida Holocaust Museum
- Pinellas County Judicial Center Renovations ribbon cutting
- FEAST Food Pantry
- Public Service Recognition Week

Chair Long

- Business Technology Services Board
- Tyler Technologies
- London trip
- Artificial Intelligence
- Tourist Development Council
- Call to the White House regarding Army Corps of Engineers concerning beaches
- Happy Birthday to Brian Lowack
- County Commission protocols meeting

Bob Graham Sunshine Skyway Bridge lighting

Resolution No. 23-29 approved supporting the Florida Department of Transportation lighting of the Skyway Bridge in recognition of Sickle Cell Awareness Day on June 19, 2023.

A motion was made by Commissioner Justice, seconded by Commissioner Flowers, that the item be approved . The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Commissioner Scott, Chair Long, Vice-Chair Peters, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

Resolution for Joint Meeting to be Held Between the Board of County Commissioners of Pinellas, Hillsborough, and Pasco Counties

Resolution No. 23-30 approved supporting the joint meeting between the Boards of County Commissioners of Pinellas, Hillsborough, and Pasco Counties, to be held on May 12, 2023.

A motion was made by Commissioner Justice, seconded by Commissioner Flowers, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Commissioner Scott, Chair Long, Vice-Chair Peters, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

Meeting Recessed: 4:12 P.M.

Meeting Reconvened: 6:00 P.M.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

All public hearing items have been properly advertised. Affidavits of Publication have been received and are on file in the Board Records Department.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

- 27.** Petition of Richard E Childress II and Tawanya M Childress to vacate a five-foot portion of a ten-foot drainage and utility easement lying along the southerly boundary of lot 1, Bayou Estates Tract 5, phase 1, Plat Book 111, pages 57 through 59, lying in section 19-30-16, Pinellas County, Florida. (9711 Sago Point Drive). (Quasi- Judicial)

Resolution No. 23-31 adopted granting the petition. Letters of no objection have been received from the appropriate parties. All interested individuals have been notified as to the date of the public hearing. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

A motion was made by Commissioner Eggers, seconded by Commissioner Flowers, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Commissioner Scott, Chair Long, Vice-Chair Peters, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

- 28. Proposed resolution expanding the boundaries of the existing City of Largo Clearwater-Largo Road Community Redevelopment Area and making a finding of necessity that blighted conditions exist within the proposed expansion area.

Resolution No. 23-32 adopted. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

Referring to a PowerPoint presentation, Planning Division Manager Evan Johnson reviewed the Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) policy, noting that it provides a framework for making CRA recommendations. He indicated that the City completed the Finding of Necessity Study that is required by a state statute, as well as data analysis requested by the County; that County and the City tax increment financing has not yet been utilized; that the expansion includes adding 366 acres to the current 307 acres; and that staff recommends approving it and delegating certain redevelopment authority to the City of Largo and developing the CRA Plan.

Responding to queries by Commissioner Eggers, Mr. Johnson related that the CRA was originally established in 1996 and explained the funding mechanism, fiscal impact, and timelines associated with the project.

Responding to queries by the members, Largo Mayor Woody Brown related that the municipal service boundary lines are utilized for planning and annexing purposes; and that the City would like to partner with the County to make sure the targeted redevelopment aligns with the combined priority of removing blight, improving public safety, and offering quality housing, jobs, and services to the area. Mayor Brown commended the work of County staff on the project.

A motion was made by Commissioner Eggers, seconded by Commissioner Flowers, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Commissioner Scott, Chair Long, Vice-Chair Peters, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

Commissioner Scott related his disappointment in the unprofessional comments made by a fellow Commissioner; whereupon, Chair Long apologized on behalf of the Board and noted that the issue will be addressed at the upcoming meeting that she requested be scheduled by the County Administrator.

ADJOURNMENT - 6:26 P.M.

ATTEST: KEN BURKE, CLERK

By *Dee Lynn Lewis*
Deputy Clerk



Janet C. Long
Chair